The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VI. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 20, 1869. NO. 126.

FIRST EDITION.

10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

WASHINGTON.

REDUCTION OF THE ARMY.

Views of Gen. Grant on the Bill Reducing the Army—The Rock Island Bridge—The Constitutional Amendment—The Banker Caucuses—Bills for Railroad Subsidies Postponed—Bridge Space—The Treasury-Office Bill

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, 1869.

Reduction of the Army.

The struggle in the House over the question of reducing the army has been very sharp and partisan, and at one time it looked as if Congress Butler's scheme might be carried. He did not stop to lay up his majority last night, when only one hundred and fifteen members were present, but, going with a full quorum, he was defeated, and Mr. Blaine's proposition was adopted by the limited and close vote of 88 to 84. This, in the essential parts, is not widely different from that introduced by Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, which, Butler contributes, is to make to a permanent force of twenty regiments of infantry and five each of artillery and cavalry, and provides that the work of reduction shall be at the pleasure of the President, can grant, in succession this morning, until it goes about as far as he thinks Congress ought to go at present. He said no extraordinary legislation was needed now commissions issued for six or eight months, and that whether any plan of reduction became a law or not, no increase in the force would take place, but the present policy of decrease by absorption would be continued during his administration. He regarded this process, and by accepting resignations and mustering discharges to reduce the army by the time Congress came next winter to twenty-five thousand men, and thinks that then, with reconstruction practically accomplished, and a better state of affairs in the indian country, a reduction to that basis would be the matter and put our military service on a suitable peace footing. He is decidedly opposed to any such arbitrary and peremptory reduction as Butler's proposition contemplated, and his influence would be thrown against any favorable action from the Senate upon the Dodge-Blaine amendment or something of a similar character. The army bill originally appropriated forty-three million dollars. It is believed the the amount can be safely reduced to about forty-four millions.

The Rock Island Bridge Question

Was strongly contested in the House legislative session to-day. The clause of the army bill, as finally adopted by a vote of 89 to 83, authorizes nine gluns for arsenal and armory $5,000, provided that one half of this amount shall be applied to the construction of a bridge connecting Rock Island and Davenport. There will be a great deal of a fight in the Senate against the clause, and its ultimate fate is an unsolution, con, but the friends of the bridge in the House are sanguine in support of a gentleman of such prominence as surveyor for military defenses, by a vote of nearly six to forty-eight, refused to make that opposition.

The Constitutional Amendment.

The ten days within which the House can act at any moment under suspension of the rules, began to-morrow, and during the afternoon session there will be a suspension in order to take up the constitutional amendment and vote from the Senate on Wednesday. He and many other prominent Republicans do not altogether like it and now that the Senate has passed it by a good deal of enthusiasm, are fear it will be smothered in the House. If this is not done, the probabilities are that the whole thing will be lost for lack of time in the present session for further consideration.

The Case of the Bankers.

The Senate Districts committee to-day went on with their investigation into bankers' frauds in a variety. They seem to have got the impression that the case of paying nine dollars interest on money of paying nine dollars interest on money of which—only owing to newspaper notice many of them since received—to the time of the burglar deposited by those who obtained themselves got for $4.00.

Executive Session.

Executive S. W. Extra, from the Senate and Washington Territory, has been appointed to fill the judicial vacancies in Carolina.

A Conference.

A conference, after the seeing the matter at some length, resulted that "they will be delighted to accept the invitation, if it is possible to secure." It is not easier to "borrow" who will have the other goes in the carriage?

The Harrisburg correspondent of the Bar County Journal says "there will be no adjournment on the day of March, nor, as it now looks, on the 10th of April next."

STATE NEWS.

Jacob Wertz, aged about forty years, committed suicide by hanging at his residence in Shamokin, Lancaster county, on Wednesday. Domestic difficulties were the cause of taking away which he had invested.

A colony of Washington county farmers, coming west on the vicinity of Oregon Hill on Monday last, intending to settle in Iowa county, Illinois.

The Erie Republican has again changed hands, and is now edited and published by Wm. H. Robinson, late of the Erie Dispatch. Mr. Robinson is a veteran in politics and a good newspaper.

The Lancaster Free Democrat says a new political party composed of Republicans and Democrats, called the "Anti-mass party," has been formed in that city. The object is to put in nomination at the coming municipal election a ticket composed of Democrats and Republicans, the object in view being to defeat the election of Democratic candidates for office. For part of the organization of this party we are indebted to the Democratic Republican.

Several county fair have combined and arrangements are now in the city, held a meeting at the National Hotel this morning for the purpose of arranging for an agricultural fair in Harrisburg during the coming autumn. Similar were present from Dauphin, Cumberland, Perry, Lancaster, Lebanon, Berks, Schuylkill, Dauphin, Lycoming, Union, Juniata, Northumberland, Snyder, Mifflin and Columbia.

Punishment of Commercial Senators.

The Senate Committee on Printing to-day reported a resolution authorizing a contract to be made with Joseph T. Crowell, for the publication of reports in Congress for a term of years after March 4th next, at a price, in accordance with a proposition submitted by him. In case of failure to contract with him, or his inability to fulfill the contract, the Joint Committee on Printing is authorized to have the work done under direction of the Congressional printer at the Government printing office.

ADDITIONAL AUDITOR.

The argument on the application from the force engaged in the case of Sampson and Barnard, pioneers at Dry Tortugas, was to-day in the Supreme Court postponed till next Friday.

CONFIRMED BY WARNER BEEMER.

Mr. Thompson, Bedford, Minister, this afternoon communicated to Secretary Seward the following dispatch from the British Government, before Mr. Seward that others have been given grounds for the further remedy of Costello and Waters.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.

The Senate to-day, without opposition, passed the Pacific Railroad bill, thus authorizing the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to engage its road and property, and to issue bonds to aid in the construction of the railroad and telegraph line from Lake Superior to the Pacific coast.

PROTECTION OF AMERICAN INTERESTS IN CUBA.

Secretary Seward has replied as follows to a Philadelphia firm:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, February 19, 1869.

Gentlemen: I have received your letter of yesterday's date, in which, as citizens of the United States, you make a request for special protection for vessels and other property on the South side of the island of Cuba, in the vicinity of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus and Cienfuegos. I appreciate the anxiety which you, in common with other merchants having large interests in Cuba, feel at the present time, and I regret that the duties which I have confirmed with the Secretary of the Navy, who informs me that all naval forces of the French station are now in Cuban waters, and the additional force which has been sent temporarily to the Windward Islands will be sufficient and necessary to afford adequate protection to American interests in the event of any outbreak in the vicinity of the ports you name. Your obedient servant,

WM. H. SEWARD.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

The Army Bill Passed in House.

Butler's Amendment Killed—The Supreme Court Bill—Indian Appropriation Bill Passed in Senate, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, 1869.

SENATE.

Mr. STEWART from the Pacific Railroad committee, submitted a majority report, in opposition to the views of the minority, on the Union Pacific Railroad Bill.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill to repeal the act fixing the headquarters of the General of the army at Washington, requiring all orders of the President and Secretary of War to be issued by him, and in case of his inability, the senior officer present, and providing that he shall not be removed from command or assigned to duty elsewhere, except at his request, without the concurrence of the Senate, and that all contrary laws shall be and are void.

Mr. POMEROY, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported with an amendment the bill to provide for the disposition of the public lands in the Omaha land district, and to grant the right of way for the construction of railroads and telegraph lines through the same.

Mr. FERRY, from the Committee on Public Buildings, reported adversely on the bill to repeal the seventh section of the act of March 2d, 1867, relating to patents for inventions, and moved its indefinite postponement, which was agreed to.

Mr. ANTHONY, from the Committee on Printing, made a report on the subject of the printing and printing of the laws, and said he would ask the senate to consider it immediately. He has no objection to the same recommendation by Congress of these public documents as is now made by the Congress of the Confederate States, but he objected to the appropriation of a part of the Congressional ground for such purpose.

Mr. POMEROY introduced a bill to abolish and impose penalties for bribery in New Mexico.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill amending the act to provide for the better organization of the militia of the District of Columbia, and for the enrollment thereof, and for the appointment of officers to command the same, and for other purposes.

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Mr. HOWARD introduced a bill to amend

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1869.

Reconstruction has been in New York the favored guest at the leading Democratic club. It is unjustifiable to make it one of the principal cries in the opposition of being everywhere opposed to his Democratic brethren to the time "Hail to the Chief."

Those who have had the chills and fever, Grant should appoint somebody not a Republican for a seat in his Cabinet, are getting better. For the benefit of all such this cause has dropped the remark that he would consider it an insult to the party that elected him, were he to think of putting men in his Cabinet who were not with the party during the war and have not since acted with it.

In the Kentucky House of Representatives a resolution providing that the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the propriety and expediency of bringing in a bill abolishing all discriminations against the right to testify in the courts of that Commonwealth, founded on race or color, was laid on the table, or quietly as we think, by a vote of forty-five to sixteen.

The House of Representatives at Harrisburg, Thursday evening, did a sensible thing by voting down the motion of Mr. McMullin, Democrat, of Montgomery county, to increase the pay of Members five hundred dollars, which would make it fifteen hundred dollars for the session. The vote was twenty-eight for and sixty against the resolution. *Of the twenty-eight nabers were Democrats.* This fact proves how hollow are the professions of the Democratic party in favor of retrenchment and reform. Only twelve of the sixty-one Republicans voted for the proposition.

It has been charged many times in the Connecticut that the reason why the officers of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg were increased to sixty-one, was not because the public service required them, but because the number fixed by law, thirty-four, could not be divided equally among the sixty-one Republican members. This has not been denied by any one, on the contrary, Mr. Speaker, who affects to be leader of the House on the Republican side, admitted the truth of the charge in his speech against dismissing the supernumeraries. He said, "Sixty-one might be half a dozen more than were actually necessary for a rigidly economical administration of the business of the House, *but how are we call one in the House to have one appointed? This was a necessary to have harmony.*" A more shameless avowal was probably never made, but this is a specimen of the edifying manly tone of the statements of extravagance. We conclude that Mr. Speaker may with safety be left to his constituents, who know how to deal with a man who glories in his corruption.

WHAT REMEDY?

Goldwin Smith, one of the best men this country ever produced, has just addressed a letter to Sir Geo. Mash, one of the greatest and best men of England, on the back-speed subject of temperance. The case is this: We expend more than a thousand millions of dollars every year in the United States for intoxicating liquor, and half the amount at least in paying for the pauperism and criminals it produces. England, in all probability, does worse than that. The Temperance Societies, although they put forth much effort and money, have comparatively little influence. Are drunkenness worse to be increasing instead of diminishing. What shall be done? Mr. Smith says let the Government shut up the drum shops. Mr. Mill says, no, but punish the vice of drunkenness in the persons of those who offend the law. Both these gentlemen belong to the radical school of reform. Both are conservative for their opinions in which we agree, that the sole function of civil government is to protect the personal and property rights of men—not to meddle with what the people eat, or what, or even if, men lose their religion. The two differ on methods, whose province it belongs to treat on pauperism and crime. Mr. Smith is inclined to the opinion that all these matters belong to the family and the Church. They have the key in their own every day in the week, during the first twenty years of his life, and they have the appliances of family worship, Sunday Schools, Bible classes and public preaching twice or thrice a week. At the end of this time many of these enjoy greatest from these instructions addicted to drink, and to all the organic vices. Then the preacher and the priest, representing the two institutions above-said, come to the civil magistrate, whose sole business in the matter of government, is to leave his sphere and to shut up the drum shop. But this is no remedy for the evil. The habit of drinking is formed; the unnatural appetite is once it is unnatural, is insatiable, and will be gratified at any expense. What would the Legislature do to encompass such a young man from his bondage? Nothing. Suppose, instead of drinking liquor, it was the still worse practice of eating opium, into which the young man had fallen, would it be compatible for the Legislature to forbid the druggist from selling the article? By no means. Opium, whisky, tobacco and all the other poisons, alive and quick, are property and matters of legitimate trade. If they cannot be found from place by the consumer they will be found in another.

Now, if you want to break up the supply of whisky you must first destroy the demand by training up a generation of young men who do not use it. For it is a well established principle in political economy that whenever there is a demand for any thing under the sun there will be a supply. Every drum shop in the city of Pittsburgh could be shut up in one week, and their proprietors forced to seek some other honorable employment for living, if all who drink would immediately quit doing so. But they will not quit. These wretched infeelies who cannot cut off to a temperance have sowed so initial an appreciation as to the vice that they have no power to resist issue from it, and their case is hopeless.

But how society as remedy, on protection against drunkenness and the pauperism and crime it engenders? Must the laws threaten of death and our firmer roll on? By no means. There is not an evil in this world for which there is not an appropriate cure, either preventive or remedial. The Family and the Church are the two institutions specially and exclusively charged to train up a child in the way he should go, and to find time to bear the responsibilities of life. But if these two departments of influence flagrantly fail in their duty, and send out into the world young men who are either devoid of blessings, then society has but one resort, and it has that, of taking back upon its original rights and declaring that the making and sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage is a nuisance to be abated.

Does any one deny this position? If a citizen of Pittsburgh erects a tanning establishment, or a powder mill, in the heart of the city and draws on his business in these lines, he is soon waited on by the people and informed that he cannot pursue this nuisance there. In such case he insists upon his rights, alleging that what he manufactures is an article of trade and that he pursues his happiness and profit in these callings. What became the lives and health of the citizens so endangered by his business, and no one has a right to make himself rich at the sacrifice of other people. The city of New York can keep out of that part the whole commerce of the country which enters there, in defiance of the Constitution of the United States which gives Congress exclusive jurisdiction over the whole subject. How, and why? Because there is yellow fever, small pox, or cholera on board the merchant vessel, and society has the right, against the whole world, to protect itself immediately against these diseases. Every community has an inherent right to sacrifice nuisance on the altar of health, for health is the greatest of all blessings.

Applying the principle to the cause of society—the drum shop—the conclusion is inevitable, that power should be lodged where it can be legally exercised for the instant protection of those whose families are disturbed by drunkenness and whose lives are made burdensome from consequent crime and pauperism, and for the ordinary abatement of a nuisance and an evil which destroys the body and the soul. The stand now to be taken with the liquor business would be to condemn no less by the time the sentence, as with base selling or adulterated manufactures, become a nuisance, it must be summarily abated.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The impression is very general in this country that the principal burden borne by the people of Europe, is in the shape of a tax imposed for the support of an army of officials, a majority of whom are employed in civil service. It would not be difficult to prove the fallacy of this. The officers now occupying civil positions in the United States cost proportionately more than in England and the people of England, France, Austria, Prussia and Russia are chiefly taxed to support armies, navies, established churches and a titled aristocracy. The clerks in the various departments, assistant superintendents and superintendents, frequently receive salaries ridiculously disproportioned to the services rendered. This disproportion is all the more apparent when compared with the salaries paid prominent churchmen, army officers, and naval commanders. It is true that in many instances the duties of a department clerk in England, France and Russia do not involve an hour's hard labor per diem. But this is equally true of many clerks employed in the departments at Washington.

England employs about fifteen thousand clerks in her civil service. The average amount paid does not exceed $300 a year. The lowest salary is $200, with an annual advance of $50, provided the officer discharges his duties faithfully. It is true that $200 will go further in England than twice that amount in this country, but the fact must also be taken into consideration that every ignoramus who "goes for" an office in England does not get it. Whether the applicant be eighteen or fifty, whether he be the son of a peer or a pauper, he has to undergo an examination and stand aside if he is incompetent. See that a young man enters the civil service at twenty, at the end of ten years he commands a salary of $500. At forty he has $1,500 and is utterly unfit for any business avocation. It must be borne in mind that this sum prevents the shadow of a chance to "realize" side fees or pickings. No department officer or clerk in England receives a penny in the shape of "perquisites." In France and Germany the pay is less in proportion to the position and the amount of labor performed. Merit is more readily recognized in France, and promotion is more rapid where an officer displays remarkable talent.

What advantages, it may be asked, does the English or French system possess over our own? In the first place permanent employment is assured capable applicants, with fair compensation. With the certainty that his continuance in office depends upon his integrity, capability and the prompt discharge of his duties, every clerk is compelled to be civil, accurate, prompt and faithful. The highest is the lowest, in his account in acquitting himself in such a manner as to secure the approval of the public and the Government. Incapacity, idleness and dishonesty are placed at a heavy discount immediately. The manner in the perquisites are cut off, the public purse is to be plundered. The experience derived by the employment of the Government is placed at the disposal of the Government. The officer is benefited, Government is benefited from the schemes of designing men, and the public reap the benefits of the officer's experience, and the saving accrued through the employment of honest officers. Under our system, it frequently happens that the head, assistant superintendent and employees of a department fail to discharge their duties promptly. Like Mrs. Captain Wadsworth, they are frequently caught "down at the hoof." Business accumulates, procrastination pervades the offices from attending to it in due season, and the outgoing official leaves the business to be resumed by his successor, who in his turn adopts the same rule. The exactions, annoyances and loss time occasioned to the public and the Government it would be difficult to estimate. By adopting a system that will secure the services of *experienced officers*—and by experienced officers we mean the *effect* experience only to be attained by continuous service—the government and the public cannot fail to be amply benefited.

AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY UNION.

An American Baptist Missionary, who came from Swatow, China, has lately made an attack upon the Bungtoo-ese Mission to the Emory Powers of Europe and the United States, which demands some notice. This gentleman cannot conceal his Britishfeeling towards our distinguished country men, and the great enterprise in which it is engaged, of bringing the Chinese Government, with its four hundred millions of people, into the circle of Christian nations.

Two methods have been pursued by foreigners in their intercourse with the Chinese—one right, the other wrong. The first was inaugurated by the English, and caused the use and purchase of opium upon the innocent people, when they committed and against it. Our Franciscan Bonzes was the first English Missions who showed any affection to the Chinese. All his predecessors regarded the people as belonging to a inferior race, proper in their depression and scorn to wait and therefore fit subjects to be imposed upon. The Americans on the contrary, from the first, showed kindness, and practical honesty in their dealings, so that the comparative estimate of the two nations is expressed everywhere in China after this fashion "We are like one piece Englishman—too monkey to smiley Sabbie. American man A No. 1, he pegee dolly", which, when interpreted, means that the English *have* their way, but that the Americans deal fairly and pay as they go.

Mr. Bunnemeyer, being an original abolitionist, and believing in the Christian doctrine of the equality of all men before God and the law, characterized his policy as Ambassador to the Chinese, by this great principle. Hence the popularity of American and the American Flag all over that country. Mr. Bunnemeyer thought that kind treatment, the steam engine and the electric telegraph, would do more to Christianize Chinese than anything else. One of the missionaries thought on him, and accordingly translated Wheaton's International Law into the Chinese language, in which it is now studied by all aspirants for political office. But the missionaries generally think that the only way to do good in China is by "preaching the Gospel" and making converts, and getting them to join the church, and squatting them as Christian churches in the people at home. Hence they dislike Mr. Bunnemeyer's policy and efficacy that of the British.

Besides, there are Missionaries in China who were sent there by Southern churches before the rebellion broke out, and who were supported by funds raised by the selling of negroes. Other missionary gentlemen, who, like frightened rats, deserted Japan, Brazil's sinking ship, when they count it to be scuttled and making water out, went over to China where they flaunted the relief gone on the streets—men without a country, and of course without patriotism. Both these classes, including the dissolute Episcopalian, who believes that the city lanes in the Valley of Vision are to be exalted in the nineteenth century by simply prophesying over them, dislike the philosophy and the policy of Mr. Bunnemeyer. They represent the Chinese as ignorant and degraded, and requiring a severe kind of discipline, which the British authorities better than the Americans. It is as much easier to catch a Cinnamon by the tail and drag him into a "Sunday House," as the Missionary Chapels are called, and there get him through a summary course of conversion, that it is no wonder the Reverend missionaries grow fat like the John Bull way of going with the horses before them the slower the worse way, which Mr. Bunnemeyer, and some of the other Missionaries, favor.

There is no nation that stands so well with the Chinese as we do. The opening of the Pacific Railroad will bring us almost as near to them as we now are to Europe. In the trade of that country we will be the favored nation. An American gunsmith has established an armory at Shanghai, and his headquarters are the embarcadero of all the great seas of the Empire who visit that city. In the competitive examinations which all candidates for political office undergo, "Wheaton's International Law" is a text book, and as its doctrines are based upon the principle of the Christian religion, which requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves, the Celestial-ization of China is only a question of time, for in that country changes of opinion, revolutionary in their character, must begin at the top of society and go down. The harvest of these views is all ready. The harvest of these views is all ready. The harvest of these views is all ready

JAS T. BRADY & Co.

Cor. Fourth and Wood Streets,

BANKERS,

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS,

Interest Allowed on Deposits.

BANKING HOUSE

Ira B. M'Vay & Co.

Cor. Fourth and Smithfield Sts.

Government Securities.

New National Life Insurance Co.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

Friday Evening, February 19, 1869.

The changes in the cash money market indicate undoubted tendency to a closer condition of things. The demand for loans is large, and there is no set off against it except that there is a moderate supply of currency. The banks are nearly up to the usual rate of their customers, in a moderate way, and others are in a more comfortable condition, but nobody has any money. We notice no change in discounts. Prime paper commands, approaching good time, and not sufficiently prime to bank upon, and commercially here to apply to institutions, who are not notified in advance, will be subjected to the usual rates of discounting. Call loans can be placed at from 10 to 12 per cent a year. Time loans show a scarcity, owing to the fullness of trade. Stock speculators and investors can get money at 12 per cent.

Sterling exchange is quite falling due on this week, and bankers will have to attend to their temporary fullness as the banks will be closed on Monday.

Government bonds appear to have been subjected to another severe depression yesterday, and the market declines in prices to-day. The Tribune remarks that the activity in money, and the people that the Secretary of the Treasury is to drop in the Committee of Finance for the purpose of urging the issue of compound interest bonds, and the sellers were more numerous than buyers. At noon call prices touched the lowest point, and directly after quotations ruled on the market closed strongly, with a much better feeling. The sales of gold were light, amounting to only $1,000,000, on account of the fluctuity in speculating of their exchange, and the scarcity of gold is also a drawback to any large gold loans.

Messrs. Jay S. Kerr & Co. report the following quotations of government securities in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Bid.	Asked.
6's, 1881, coupon		
6's, 1881, registered		
5-20's, 1862, coupon		
5-20's, 1862, registered		
5-20's, 1864, coupon		
5-20's, 1864, registered		
5-20's, 1865, coupon		
5-20's, 1865, registered		
5-20's, 1865, new, coupon		
5-20's, 1865, new, registered		
5-20's, 1867, coupon		
5-20's, 1867, registered		
5-20's, 1868, coupon		
5-20's, 1868, registered		
10-40's, coupon		
10-40's, registered		
7-30's, 1st series		
7-30's, 2d series		
7-30's, 3d series		

Messrs. Jay S. Kerr & Co. report the following quotations of gold and silver bullion in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Bid.	Asked.
Gold		
Silver		
Trade dollars		
Five francs		

Messrs. Jay S. Kerr & Co. report the following quotations of Pittsburgh securities to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Connellsville R. R.		
Allegheny Valley R. R.		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Steubenville R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Erie R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Connellsville R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Steubenville R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Erie R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Connellsville R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Steubenville R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Erie R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.		

Messrs. Painter & Co., bankers and brokers, report the following quotations of stocks in New York to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Connellsville R. R.		
Allegheny Valley R. R.		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Steubenville R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Erie R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Connellsville R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Steubenville R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston R. R.		
Pittsburgh & Erie R. R.		
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.		

The following are the Bank Statements for the week ending February 13, 1869, and February 15, 1868:

	Feb. 13, 1869.	Feb. 15, 1868.	Dec.
N. Y. Central			
Hudson River			
Erie			
Michigan Central			
Michigan Southern			
Illinois Central			
Cleveland & Pittsburgh			
Chicago & Rock Island			
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne			
Chicago & Northwestern			
Chicago & Northwestern preferred			
Toledo & Wabash			
Milwaukee & St. Paul			
Milwaukee & St. Paul preferred			
Fort Wayne			
Ohio & Mississippi			
Ohio & Mississippi certificates			
Terre Haute			
Terre Haute preferred			
Quicksilver			
Quicksilver preferred			
Pacific Mail			
Western Union Telegraph			
Adams Express			
United States Express			
Wells, Fargo & Co.			
Canton Co.			
Cumberland Coal			
New York Coal			
Mariposa			
Mariposa preferred			
Pittsburgh Coal			
Consolidation Coal			

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's closing quotations has the following appearance:

	Closing, Feb. 19.	Closing, Feb. 20.	Dec.
N. Y. Central			
Hudson River			
Erie			
Michigan Central			
Michigan Southern			
Illinois Central			
Cleveland & Pittsburgh			
Chicago & Rock Island			
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne			
Chicago & Northwestern			
Chicago & Northwestern preferred			
Toledo & Wabash			
Milwaukee & St. Paul			
Milwaukee & St. Paul preferred			
Fort Wayne			
Ohio & Mississippi			
Ohio & Mississippi certificates			
Terre Haute			
Terre Haute preferred			
Quicksilver			
Quicksilver preferred			
Pacific Mail			
Western Union Telegraph			
Adams Express			
United States Express			
Wells, Fargo & Co.			
Canton Co.			
Cumberland Coal			
New York Coal			
Mariposa			
Mariposa preferred			
Pittsburgh Coal			
Consolidation Coal			

The Boston Journal of Friday, February 19, reports that there was a stronger feeling in the stock market on Thursday morning, which continued until early in the afternoon, and sales were effected at an advance of one per cent on the prices of the day before, but on the opening during the afternoon, a decline of one per cent came on. A small rise in prices was then established, and this kept up to the close. It was weak, and toward the latter part of the afternoon prices declined about one per cent. Government bonds were dull and unchanged. Gold was dull and declined about one quarter, and there was little doing in foreign exchange. Money is easy at 6 per cent on call. Commercial paper is in fair demand at 7@8 per cent for first class names. Sterling exchange is dull at 9 1/2@9 3/4 per cent premium for 60 days, and 10@10 1/4 per cent premium for sight. Gold is dull at 133 1/4@133 1/2. Silver is dull at 129@130 for the 5 and 10 franc pieces. Five-twenties of 1862 are dull at 113 1/2@113 3/4; of 1864, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1865, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1865, new, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1867, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1868, 111 1/2@111 3/4. Ten-forties are dull at 107 1/2@107 3/4. Seven-thirties are dull at 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the first series; 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the second series; and 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the third series. Compound interest notes are dull at 112 1/2@112 3/4. Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 106 1/2@106 3/4. Union Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 91@91 1/4. Central Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 90@90 1/4. Western Union Telegraph Company bonds are dull at 104@104 1/4. Boston and Albany Railroad stock is dull at 135@135 1/2. Boston and Lowell Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Boston and Maine Railroad stock is dull at 132@132 1/2. Eastern Railroad stock is dull at 104@104 1/2. Fitchburg Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Old Colony Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Western Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Hartford and Erie Railroad stock is dull at 20@20 1/2. Hartford and New Haven Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Rutland and Washington Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Rutland and Burlington Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Cleveland and Toledo Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Chicago and Rock Island Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Illinois Central Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Michigan Central Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Ohio and Mississippi Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Toledo and Wabash Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Union Pacific Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Western Union Telegraph Company stock is dull at 100@100 1/2.

The Boston Herald of Friday, February 19, says: The stock market continued dull and heavy to-day, and prices were lower. Government bonds were dull and unchanged. Gold was dull and declined about one quarter, and there was little doing in foreign exchange. Money is easy at 6 per cent on call. Commercial paper is in fair demand at 7@8 per cent for first class names. Sterling exchange is dull at 9 1/2@9 3/4 per cent premium for 60 days, and 10@10 1/4 per cent premium for sight. Gold is dull at 133 1/4@133 1/2. Silver is dull at 129@130 for the 5 and 10 franc pieces. Five-twenties of 1862 are dull at 113 1/2@113 3/4; of 1864, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1865, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1865, new, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1867, 111 1/2@111 3/4; of 1868, 111 1/2@111 3/4. Ten-forties are dull at 107 1/2@107 3/4. Seven-thirties are dull at 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the first series; 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the second series; and 106 1/2@106 3/4 for the third series. Compound interest notes are dull at 112 1/2@112 3/4. Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 106 1/2@106 3/4. Union Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 91@91 1/4. Central Pacific Railroad bonds are dull at 90@90 1/4. Western Union Telegraph Company bonds are dull at 104@104 1/4. Boston and Albany Railroad stock is dull at 135@135 1/2. Boston and Lowell Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Boston and Maine Railroad stock is dull at 132@132 1/2. Eastern Railroad stock is dull at 104@104 1/2. Fitchburg Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Old Colony Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Western Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Hartford and Erie Railroad stock is dull at 20@20 1/2. Hartford and New Haven Railroad stock is dull at 130@130 1/2. Rutland and Washington Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Rutland and Burlington Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Cleveland and Toledo Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Chicago and Rock Island Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Illinois Central Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Michigan Central Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Ohio and Mississippi Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Toledo and Wabash Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Union Pacific Railroad stock is dull at 100@100 1/2. Western Union Telegraph Company stock is dull at 100@100 1/2.

The Boston Journal

The Daily Commercial.

OUR CHURCHES.

Congregational and Presbyterian.

The Presbyterian Christian Advocate, (Philadelphia,) says that the Rev. Wm. A. Crafts, pastor of Clark Street church, for over eight years, has resigned his position as pastor of the Presbyterian Sabbath-school church, on Clark street. The Chicago Tribune commends the action of the church in accepting the resignation, and says: "We are sorry to lose Brother Crafts from the ministry. He is a Christian gentleman of the highest type, and a minister of no ordinary ability."

During a spirited controversy at present going on in the *Methodist Recorder* between the Rev. Asa Mahan, D.D., President of Adrian college, and Oliver Johnson, Esq., managing editor of the New York Independent, concerning the management of the latter establishment and the course of Rufus Hosmer and Johnson in connection therewith, the latter says:

Rev. Richard Eddy says that thirty-five ministers are excommunicated yearly from the English Church, for intemperance. Why not prosecute, if true, and save the price of a funeral?

East Pittsburgh Congregation (O. S.,) Presbyterian, have effected the sale of the parsonage, to T. S. Graham, from S. Jones, for $6,000, receiving in cash over three-fifths of the amount, and have also purchased a beautiful and commodious new parsonage, with the exception of ground, on which are many valuable fruit and ornamental trees. They complete the settlement of money matters with the sale of the old church property, which will be removed from the church of Homewood, Pa., to the corner of Penn and Center streets, East Liberty.

Rev. H. Pearne Cook, of the last class of the Theological Seminary and now Chaplain of the Young Men's Christian Association in this city, has received a call to Lexington, Mo., from the Congregational Church at that place, and will probably accept. Lexington, Mo., is a beautiful town on the Missouri river, and the Congregational Society is said to be the strongest and most influential in the State.

A prominent society of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Manchester, Allegheny county, Ohio, having given up hope of any organization in that locality, the Rev. Joseph Hamilton and Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church, are now organized in Rev. Geo. Gilmore, M. D., minister in charge of the latter denomination.

The Rev. W. H. Norton, of the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has become responsible editor of the *Home Visitor*, a semi-monthly paper in Wheeling.

R. G. Pardee, Esq., a well-known Sunday School worker, died a few days since in New York. He was the author of "The Sunday School Index."

Sylvester Bliss, Ex-Bishop Beverly Hawley, of the United Brethren Church, in the *Western Methodist*, affirms that no candidate "agreeable to the abolition of the office of Bishop, need neglect to be supplied, for the General Conference of 1869. Since the office of presiding elder is to be abolished, the Bishop's salary should be raised, and the duties of the office increased."

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Rev. W. J. Burns has received a unanimous call to the Presbyterian church in Bangor, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cummins states that the "best church in Rome is now held in a granary once a day," but the truth is as more than one newspaper correspondent can testify, that the Church of Rome is a divine one, despite the sins of its followers.

Rev. Isaac H. Jeffers sends a call to Rev. Geo. and Union Presbyterian churches, in the Presbytery of Allegheny.

Wesley Bannister's Death.—Rev. Wesley Bannister, of Baltimore, announces the publication of "The Gospel in the Cross," by Rev. A. Clark, of Canada.

A vacancy in a religious exchange who has been guilty of a church in Pittsburgh, expressing that, the advertiser would like to suffer sermons to be reported in the papers in connection to the doctrine of "holiness." The item needs little elaboration from the fact that in the expression it, was the intention of the writer of it to put that "unholy thing—adulterating the sermons, and sometimes his own pulpit."

Progress.—Secular exchanges state that Bishop Simpson, of the M. E. Church, organized in Rochester, Penn., and desired to preach in the church in the evening, but the officers of the Methodist Church, south, and in consequence he preached in a Presbyterian church of the city.

The Rev. S. F. Gauntlet, pastor of the Methodist Church, New Brighton, late of Allegheny, is having in his new charge with great success. Since his accession to the pastorate a new lot of the largest of the place and in every way worthy of the services of their invincible pastor.

The First Presbyterian Church of Wheeling have raised $500 to the source of their pastor.

The Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church will meet in annual session in New Philadelphia, Ohio, on the 31st of March, Bishop Kingsley presiding.

The *Christian Instructor*, one of the most progressive of evangelical exchanges, will be removed from Springfield, Ohio, to Pittsburgh, within a few days, and will be issued from this city. It will be enlarged and finished in new type with the first number from Pittsburgh. It will be semi-monthly.

A concern in the United Presbyterian Sunday School Convention, in Allegheny City, is reported as having said, "It is not befitting in ministers who preach salvation entirely on the terms of the Bible, as the offspring of the Bible, and the women of the Bible, to be the slaves in ministers who preach sermons that make no mention, and would be refuse to believe in, those women because so pointed in the most preached sermons from the pulpit, and discriminated only by common reference to objects of nature—to the fig tree, the vine, and the wind? Does he call Ezekiel a sensationalist because he had a vision of wheels? And are the women of the Bible—the Marys, the Marthas, the Leahs and the Lydias to be kept out of sermons for some motley divine of intense proportions now not "natural" in such preaching?

Reading, when properly conducted is important in preparing those of the congregation and audience in the services of the Institution for the enjoyment of the judgment, or in any way can use his influence to exercise and control the interest and manner of the of strong, and the development of the mind. In many instances it should proceed on God's word. Very good. And that in exactly what we did when we read the Bible, and the Psalms and Hymns of the Book. But turn over the Bible, the full sense and the sentiment of the words, and the spirit of what. And we think that many would make a mistake in assuming the proper and the reading of the word of God. Would this be the case if the reading of David without getting out of the habit of "turning to verses?" Paul's word in writing to Timothy, "Give attendance to reading," has no reference to the Spirit, the soul-inspiration of the Holy Ghost, and the fruits of righteousness.

To the Editor of the *Pittsburgh Commercial*:

Among all sacrifices and conduct of your excellent paper, I observe a paragraph under the head of "our churches," dated February 9th, in relation to Lorenzo Weil having a meeting in the Lutheran church at Washington City, being where she is reported to have converted the congregation with these words, "To Christ that was never crucified, to the Christ that never sinned, and the Christ that never died." In addition to the above quotation: "What this Christ is she is not reported as telling her hearers. Perhaps not the one who appeared in Judea some 1800 years ago." As the controlling opinion of this paragraph seems based on the foolish and unfounded statement made by Lorenzo Weil, I may observe that I am well acquainted with her and with your permission I can soon remove all doubts as to the truthfulness of the statements made by Brethren. I may observe that Christ is Judaism signifies Messiah, and in French Christ, and Christian is the proper title in the English language to express it by. And as such I speak to one here in the city, and to the inquirers here in the Apostle Peter noticed, in the first sermon preached by him, that Christ was the Messiah, and the Christ of Nazareth, who was crucified, dead, buried, and raised from the dead, and exalted Jesus